

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

#4/a

Applicant: Thonnard, et al.

Docket No.: BM45402

Serial No.: Unknown

Filed: Herewith

For: Novel Compounds

Group Art Unit No.: Unknown

Examiner: Unknown

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Applicant respectfully requests that this Preliminary Amendment be entered in this case before the calculation of fees and before examination of the subject application.

In the Claims:

Please delete the claims of the application as filed in the PCT and substitute therefor:

27. An isolated polypeptide comprising a member selected from the group consisting of
- (a) an amino acid sequence matching SEQ ID NO:2 and
 - (b) an immunogenic polypeptide comprising a fragment sequence of at least 15 amino acids that matches an aligned contiguous segment of SEQ ID NO:2,
- wherein the isolated polypeptide, when administered to a subject in a suitable composition which can include an adjuvant, or a suitable carrier coupled to the polypeptide, induces an antibody or T-cell immune response to a polypeptide having the sequence of SEQ ID NO:2.
28. An isolated polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide of Claim 27 or the full complement to the isolated polynucleotide.
29. The isolated polypeptide of claim 27, wherein the polypeptide is according to (a).
30. An isolated polynucleotide encoding a polypeptide of Claim 29 or the full complement to the isolated polynucleotide.
31. A process for expressing the polynucleotide of Claim 30 comprising transforming a host cell with an expression vector comprising the polynucleotide and culturing the host cell under conditions sufficient for expression of the polynucleotide.